

WEATHER FORECAST FOR TODAY.  
Westerly winds and cool weather; a few  
rain squalls likely.

SUGAR—96° Centrifugals, 3.76 in  
New York.

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HONOLULU, HAWAII TERRITORY, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1903.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## REPUBLICANS TO FIX COMMITTEES

### Majority Party Arranges Plans for Control of the Legislation of the Senate and Will Force the Action of the House.

Republicans as responsible for the legislation of the session, will control the Legislature. This was decided upon at the meeting of the majority members last evening with the leaders of the party, and before the adjournment of the caucus plans were made which will lead to the carrying out of these ends.

Speaker Beckley, according to the present outlook, will remain undisturbed in his position, but he will be asked this morning to name the committees of the House along the lines fixed at the conference of last evening. The members then decided what places on committees are desired by them, and this list will be submitted to the Speaker this morning.

In the event that he refuses to appoint the committees as submitted, then a resolution embodying the names as arranged, and setting forth that the committees shall be so constituted, will be introduced and passed by the majority. This is entirely within the right of the House, for the provision that the speaker shall name the committees is only that such shall be the order unless otherwise arranged. The passage of a resolution will change the rules and there will be no delay on the part of the majority in showing their strength.

The outlook seems to be that there will be no change in the office of Speaker so long as the fact that the majority is in the saddle as to action is recognized. The strength of the party will be behind any action taken and harmony of action is promised as the result of the many conferences which have been held.

### BECKLEY RULES IN THE HOUSE

Speaker Beckley gave the House a taste of his quality at the afternoon session and following as it did his declaration that he could not be removed from office in spite of the rules of the House, the exhibition gave promise that there will be some interesting times in the lower branch of the Legislature. Mr. Beckley will not resign, and acting it is alleged on the advice of his attorney, a former Republican leader, he will make such a fight as will give zest to the proceedings.

It is a question which session furnished the greatest sensation, for with the speech of the chairman in the morning and his action in refusing to entertain a motion to adjourn in the afternoon, taking his choice between two motions offered and seconded, one by Harris and the other by Kuphea, there was an element of excitement during the entire day. The organization of the House was completed by the selection of the officers on the list, the voting demonstrating that the Republican members do not seem to comprehend the meaning of a caucus, for there was in only one instance the full strength polled for a candidate, in another a man who was turned down in caucus was elected on the floor, and in a third a Republican nominated an outsider.

The first sensation was sprung when the House was called to order and the minutes were read and translated. Immediately this was concluded Speaker Beckley began to speak, and slowly and distinctly, acting as his own translator, he said:

"Yesterday when we convened I had the honor of your confidence in being elected Speaker of this House. Within the last twenty-four hours matters have changed somewhat. A few minutes previous to our coming together this morning I was approached by a committee from the Central Committee of the opposition party, who asked me to resign the Speakership in the interest of party harmony so far as the Republican party is concerned."

"In the interest of the people I was made Speaker of this House. I have consulted with my colleagues, and, in the words of the National Committee-man, 'I will stand pat by the people and the laws of the country.' I advise you to let well enough alone."

"According to the law there can be no legal action by this body in any matter without my signature as Speaker. There is no parliamentary rule under which a Speaker can be removed after having been legally elected and no motion leading to that end will be entertained

by this chair. Gentlemen, we will proceed with the election of vice-chairman."

As soon as he had finished his words Chillingworth moved that the House take a recess until two o'clock in the afternoon, and when this was done another caucus was held by the Republicans, though it was without effect.

When the afternoon session began Speaker Beckley announced that the order of business was the completion of the organization of the House, and that it would at once proceed to the choosing of a vice-speaker. The Home Rule leaders showed a vigor which was surprising, and Kaniho got the floor quickly, nominating David Kuphea. There seemed no Republican who had his mind made up and it looked as if there would be no opposition to the Home Ruler, but finally Nakaleka moved to adjourn. Speaker Beckley ruled this out of order and gave as his reason that some business must intervene between motions to adjourn under the rules. Harris then nominated Knudsen. The votes were counted by a committee consisting of Pulaa and Lewis, and the result was Knudsen seventeen, Kuphea twelve, there being one member absent.

The result was announced and immediately Harris moved to adjourn. Speaker Beckley announced that he would not entertain the motion nor would he recognize any member for the purpose of a similar one, as he had ruled that adjournment having taken place once, there could be no similar action until the conclusion of the order of business. Harris appealed from this ruling, but Speaker Beckley would not recognize his right to the floor looking right through him and seeing Kaniho who nominated the Rev. Mr. Kekuewa for chaplain. Harris sat down and the business went on. There were other nominations and at once the election of Kekuewa was made unanimous.

This brought up the matter of the clerkship and Kaniho nominated W. H. Coney and Henry C. Vida presented the name of Solomon Meheula. Coney had withdrawn from the race at the majority caucus of the preceding evening and the result was foregone, the former clerk of the Home Rule house winning the place by twenty-six to three. For interpreter Kaniho named W. J. Coelho and Knudsen, W. G. Sheldon. The latter was the choice of the Republican caucus. Coelho having been turned down by his supposed party and only retaining his nomination from the Home Rule side. But five of the men who were present at the caucus violated the pledge and gave Coelho fifteen votes while Sheldon received only fourteen. The announcement of the result was received with applause from the gallery.

Kuphea named P. Maurice McMahon for stenographer, and the Republicans put up George P. Thellen. The latter got sixteen votes as against thirteen for the Home Ruler. From this time the elections went on rapidly, the only strict party vote being that given to Kaleo for sergeant-at-arms, he receiving nineteen as against ten for former speaker J. A. Akina. The full list of employees includes Mallo, messenger and Kellias as janitor. The element of humor was introduced when Kaniho, calling in a loud voice for the newly elected messenger asked for the delivery of a note, and soon after while Mallo was waiting upon another member, Kaniho's pencil rapping stopped proceedings until he had been served.

Harris at once moved that further work of organization be postponed until this morning, and the motion was seconded, but the Speaker announced that the organization was complete and that there was now nothing but work in sight. He recognized Kuphea, who moved that a committee of three wait upon the Governor and the Senate and announce that the House was ready for business. Kumalae raised the point that Harris had a regular motion to adjourn but Beckley said that he would not recognize that motion, as the one of Kuphea was in line with public interest, and would mean that something might be done. He put the motion and it was simply snowed under by the House, whereupon Beckley recognized Harris for a motion to adjourn, which carried.

### SENATE MAJORITY OPPOSES GAG RULE.

The Senate did a lively business at the morning session. There was a rush from the start at 10 o'clock until an adjournment was taken until afternoon, forty-five minutes later.

When the session was called to order by President Crabbe, Senators Paris, McCandless, Dickey, and Nakapahu were not in their places. McCandless came in during roll-call, and Dickey a few minutes later. Nakapahu was announced as ill, and Paris has not arrived in the city.

Chaplain Ezera opened with prayer.

(Continued on page 3.)

## COST OF ISSUING FIRE CLAIMS BONDS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 19.

To Governor Dole, Honolulu--Have speedy legislation appropriating twenty five thousand dollars subject to Governor's draft to defray expenses of the payment of fire claims, then ask Secretary Shaw how much to remit to him.

The bonds have been made payable at the Wells, Fargo Bank, New York. Arrangements are satisfactory. W. O. SMITH.

All arrangements for the Fire Claims bond issue have been made at Washington, according to the above cablegram received yesterday morning by Governor Dole from W. O. Smith. A speedy appropriation by the legislature of the sum of \$25,000 for the payment of the expenses of bond issue and payment of the million dollars appropriated by Congress is also urged in the brief cablegram sent by Mr. Smith, and Governor Dole will probably follow out the suggestion in an early recommendation to the legislature.

W. O. Smith has probably interviewed the Secretary of the Treasury and the Interior and the estimate is based on their views. The money will be required for the printing and floating of the bonds and for the payment of the expenses of sending a Treasury Agent from Washington to Honolulu with the million dollars voted by Congress.

## HONDURAS CONGRESS SENDS SIERRA AGAINST BONILLA

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAM.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 19.—The Congress of Honduras has appointed Sierra, the hold-over President, as Commander-in-Chief of the Government forces in a campaign against President-elect Bonilla, who has centered his forces at Amapala.



Bonilla, a comparatively young man, is described as one of the most daring and active of Central American revolutionists. After being defeated in an election for the presidency in 1891 he was driven from the country as a conspirator and took refuge in Nicaragua. Since then he has made numerous attempt by force of arms to regain the presidency and in the present case has secured a large number of Nicaraguan followers with whose help he expects to secure control of the country.

### Owned Dred Scott, Fugitive Slave.

SPRINGFIELD (Mass.), February 12.—Mrs. C. C. Chaffee, eighty-eight years old, died here yesterday. She was at one time the owner of Dred Scott, over whom the famous legal controversy was waged and which practically annulled the Missouri compromise. To Mrs. Chaffee had been left the slave by her first husband, Dr. Emerson of St. Louis, and she had practically given him his freedom after moving to this city to live.

## HOUSE PROVIDES FOR SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF UNCLE SAM'S NAVY

### Three Battleships, One Armored Cruiser and a Flotilla of Submarines in the Bill.

### Two Hundred Houses Burned---Tillman Refused Bail---Idaho House Passes Beet Sugar Bounty Bill.

(ASSOCIATED PRESS CABLEGRAMS)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The House has passed the Naval Appropriation bill which provides for the construction of three battleships, an armored cruiser and five million dollars' worth of submarine torpedo boats.

### Two Hundred Houses Burned.

ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 19.—In a fire at Pultovska, two hundred houses were burned and twelve persons lost their lives. Extreme cold weather interfered with the attempts of the firemen to subdue the flames. The origin of the disaster is unknown.

### Tillman Stays in Jail.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 19.—The court has denied an application for bail in the case of Lieutenant Governor Tillman who shot and killed Editor Gonzales, a political opponent. Feeling against Tillman still runs high.

### Killed by a Falling Wall.

SPRINGFIELD, O., Feb. 19.—In a large fire here today three men were killed by the falling of a wall. The loss to property amounts to half a million dollars.

### Encouraging Beet Sugar.

BOISE, Ia., Feb. 19.—The lower house of the Legislature has passed a bill granting a bounty of one cent per pound on beet sugar grown within the State.

### Mitchell Won't Lecture.

INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 19.—John Mitchell, the leader of the coal miners, has refused an offer of \$4000 to deliver a series of lectures in the Chautauqua circuit.

### Venezuelan Claims.

NEW YORK, Feb. 19.—The Belgian representative has arrived to settle the Venezuelan claims in conjunction with Minister Bowen.

### A New Commercial Treaty.

BERLIN, Feb. 19.—Negotiations have been opened for a commercial treaty between Russia and Germany.

### A Marconi Newspaper.

(Associated Press Mail Special.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—The Journal has the following from London: Passengers on the Atlantic transport steamship Minneapolis, which reached London to-day, enjoyed the distinction of being the first trans-Atlantic travelers to keep in touch with the world throughout the voyage.

They were the first contributors to and readers of the Intercontinental Wireless Daily, printed on the Minneapolis, which for five days kept in touch with the Cape Cod station. After that her wireless plant began to respond to the messages from Cornwall.

Varying phases of the Venezuelan question, the domestic troubles of European potentates, King Edward's illness, the contest for the Fair millions and the hurricane in the Society Islands were picked up and duly chronicled. The newspapers offered for sale by the English pilot were for the first time declined with disdain.

### Diamonds in Meteoric Iron.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—Some planet has hurled a diamond to the earth. This is a purely scientific deduction to account for the presence of what is certainly the rarest gem ever seen. It was placed on public exhibition to-day for the first time in the American Museum of Natural History.

This diamond came packed in a thick envelope of meteoric iron, some of which still surrounds it. It fell to the earth in Canyon Diablo, at the foot of Crater Mountain in Arizona. It is not a Kohinoor in size, but is of a purity and hardness never found in a stone taken from the finest mines of the earth.